



**U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
BUREAU FOR DEMOCRACY, CONFLICT, AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE (DCHA)
OFFICE OF U.S. FOREIGN DISASTER ASSISTANCE (OFDA)
CENTRAL ASIA TASK FORCE**

CENTRAL ASIA REGION – Complex Emergency

Fact Sheet #34, Fiscal Year (FY) 2002

December 10, 2001

Note: This Fact Sheet updates previously released Central Asia Region Fact Sheets and Situation Reports.

Numbers Affected

- According to the United Nations Office for the Coordination on Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA), 7.5 million Afghans are in urgent need of humanitarian assistance including food, shelter, health, education, and demining initiatives.
- On December 3 IRIN reported that approximately 150,000 Afghan refugees have entered Pakistan since September 11. Although United Nations (U.N.) and nongovernmental organization (NGO) sources are reporting increased population movements since November 12, it is not clear how many new refugees and internally displaced people (IDPs) there are at this time.

Relief Activities

- On December 9, the Government of Uzbekistan (GOU) re-opened the Friendship Bridge that joins Uzbekistan and Afghanistan in Termez, after having been closed for the last 3 years. Fourteen railcars transported 600 MT of humanitarian supplies across the bridge on the first day of operation.
- The GOU has not yet established procedures for NGOs and international organizations to obtain the new special permit for expatriate travel to Termez. The travel restriction is therefore not being enforced by the GOU. The new permit requirement was to take effect on December 1.
- Numerous NGOs operating in Mazar-e-Sharif report that the major concerns in the city are a lack of relief supplies and poor information on the delivery pipeline. NGOs are also citing the need for processed and blended foods.
- On December 8, the World Food Program (WFP) began its general distribution in Herat, targeting the 1.3 million most vulnerable of the city's 1.7 million residents.
- IOM reports that there is an urgent need for heating fuel in Hazarajat.

Security

- Security officers from UNHCR and the UN Security Coordination Office (UNSECOORD) have completed a security assessment of Mazar-e-Sharif. Their initial reports are "cautiously optimistic" about international aid access to the city.
- Opposition forces now control most of the Kandahar region. UNOCHA reports that the situation in Kandahar is chaotic with widespread looting taking place in the city.
- Radio Afghanistan has begun to broadcast ICRC mine awareness public announcements to the civilian population in Kabul.
- UNICEF distributed 10,000 blankets for 5,000 families, 9,800 mattresses, 6,000 children's sweaters and 6,000 children's winter shoes in Maslakh camp between December 4-6.

Population Movements

- UNHCR is urging Afghan refugees from Kandahar not to return to the city yet, because the security situation and aid access in the city remain uncertain.
- NGOs in Mazar-e-Sharif are reporting that while some IDP camps have closed, others are opening or expanding, particularly in locations with ongoing distribution of relief supplies.
- The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is preparing to conduct a full re-registration of all residents of Maslakh camp near Herat. IOM plans to use scannable bracelets for the heads of family and IOM will then input the data into their database. IOM reports that camp leaders are not enthusiastic about the re-registration process.
- The UNOCHA Regional Coordinator is lobbying strongly for a new camp to be established near Herat as soon as possible so that Maslakh camp can be closed to new arrivals. Maslakh currently holds an estimated 200,000-300,000 residents.
- Some reports suggest that expectations of food arrivals in Ghor and Baghdis provinces are discouraging residents from leaving home for IDP camps in Herat.
- The Government of Pakistan continues to ban UNHCR from accepting new refugees at the Chaman border crossing. UNICEF reports that up to 3,000 Afghans are camped at Chaman, awaiting inprocessing at the Killi

Faizo transit camp. UNICEF reports that malnourishment at the camps is high. Approximately 250-350 people are registering at the transit camp per day despite the ongoing ban.

Logistics

- UNOCHA reported that its international staff have returned to Bamian in the Central Highlands. UNOCHA is planning a technical assessment of the airport with the local authorities.
- WFP has two warehouses in Hairaton capable of storing a total of 70,000 MT of food. WFP has begun repairing the warehouses, which are in need substantial reconditioning.

U.S. Government Activities

New Actions

- To date, the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) has airdropped 2,332,800 Humanitarian Daily Rations (HDRs) into Afghanistan. According to DOD, the cost of the airdrop operations to date, including the rations, transport, and fuel expenses, total approximately \$49.4 million.

Disaster Declarations & Background

- On October 4, 2001, Assistant Secretary of State for South Asian Affairs Christina B. Rocca redeclared a complex humanitarian disaster for Afghanistan for FY 2002.
- On October 10, 2001, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires James A. Boughner declared a disaster for Tajikistan due to drought.

FY 2002 USG Assistance to Afghanistan

Total USAID/OFDA	\$59,320,284
Total USAID/FFP	\$40,555,000
Total USAID/OTI	\$1,687,820
Total State/PRM.....	\$32,260,000
Total DOD*	\$49,397,769

TOTAL USG Humanitarian Assistance FY 2002..... \$183,220,873

TOTAL USG Humanitarian Assistance FY 2001** **\$183,107,625**

TOTAL USG Humanitarian Assistance to Afghanistan FY 2001/2002 **\$366,328,498**

FY 2002 USG Assistance to Tajikistan

Total USAID/OFDA	\$998,180
Total USAID/FFP	\$20,000,000
TOTAL USG Humanitarian Assistance to Tajikistan FY 2002	\$20,998,180
TOTAL USG Humanitarian Assistance to Tajikistan FY 2001	\$67,210,000

TOTAL USG Humanitarian Assistance to Tajikistan FY 2001/2002 **\$88,208,180**

Note: Full details of funding above are available in weekly USAID/OFDA Central Asia Region Situation Reports.

**Note: DOD funding totals are estimates.*

***Note: Final accounting of USDA contributions in FY01 showed an additional expense of \$4.5 million for transport costs. This figure has not been reported previously.*

USAID/OFDA fact sheets can be obtained from the USAID web site at http://www.usaid.gov/hum_response/ofda/situation.html